S
The Shakerite

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED DEC. 2?

Shaker enjoyed two athletic victories and a school musical, but intoxication, fighting and arrests made it a Friday night to remember. Pages 3-5

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Can't hear the announcements?

If your teacher talks over the P.A. announcers every day, don't despair. Secretary Mae Morrical said the announcements are now online so parents can read them, too. Scan the QR code to the right with your smart phone or visit www.shaker.org/MorningAnnouncements.aspx to access a print version of the information.

NO MORE IN-HOUSE GYM REQUIREMENT

BY JULIA SCHARFSTEIN
CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

Thanks to a new state law, students no longer need to take one year of in-house gym to graduate.

The 2011-2012 Program Planning Guide states that "students may use irregularly earned credits (independent study . . . and the like) to satisfy the state's minimum graduation requirements."

This new law requires public schools to offer "credit flexibility," which allows students to earn credit for high school courses without experiencing classroom instruction. The law applies to any course. Shaker students have already been allowed to complete one year of physical education through independent study and one year in-house. With the new law, students will no longer have to take physical education with a Shaker teacher.

Flex credits are graded on a pass/fail basis. Students have four months to complete an independent study by spending 20 hours with an instructor and accumulating 40 hours of additional practice. Completion earns one-half unit of credit. Additionally, each independent study requires an essay before and after the credit is completed. All independent studies must be completed by the end of first semester of students' senior year.

Freshman figure skater Cassandra Wood benefits from flex credits because she practices every morning from 7- 8:30 a.m. then comes to school second period. Wood said that independent study allows her more time to focus on school work because she does not have to skate after school. "I'm not taking away time for homework and I still get to skate," Wood said.

Physical Education Department Chairman Stuart Gilbert said that because flex credits require a lot of additional time and writing, they require maturity. He said, "It's a personal choice, but with personal choice comes personal responsibility."

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

STUDENTS WHO PURSUE flex credits for PE will have to compile 40 hours of practice.

After visits, SGORR groups cannot eat in restaurants

Please return
Something Different
books ASAP!!
What time??
Hannukah
@ Didi's
YAY!

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

CORE LEADERS WORK in the SGORR office. SGORR's mission is to "foster discussion of Shaker's diversity and encourage interracial friendship," SGORR coordinator Halle Bauer said. Groups are no longer allowed to go out to lunch after class visits.

BY ALLIE HARRIS
CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

The 250 students in the Student Group on Race Relations are now prohibited from going out to lunch after they visit elementary school classrooms.

According to SGORR Coordinator Halle Bauer, the existing policy is now being enforced because going out to lunch is an inappropriate use of school time.

"It takes away from the importance of work and reflects badly on SGORR as a whole," Bauer said.

Sophomore CORE leader Clare Mearns said having students at restaurants in the middle of the day "can look bad because it looks like kids are skipping school."

Students are excused by SGORR from second through ninth period on the days they visit elementary school classes. Mearns said allowing kids go out to lunch creates "logistical issues," such as tardy returns to school.

"I respect [the enforced policy] and understand it even if I don't necessarily agree with it," Mearns said.

Bauer, who became SGORR coordinator after founding coordinator Marcia Jaffe retired last year, said that she has heard some complaints about the decision to enforce the policy "mostly second-hand, through the leaders.

"I understand the complaints, but I am hoping that this alternative will allow groups to still bond, but it will be a better use of time and also allow them to get back to school easier," Bauer said.

SGORR groups meet one night every week to learn the activities they will be facilitating in the classrooms. On the day they visit the younger classes, they lead activities in either fourth-or-sixth-grade classrooms.

Sophomore SGORR member Shaun Roy questioned the newly enforced rule. "I never understood why it was such a big deal for SGORR to go out to lunch. As a school organization, we go and spend three hours in an elementary classroom, so I feel we deserve to get a break and go out to lunch. Also, it is no different than kids that go out to lunch during their respective lunch periods."

Although Bauer explained that this policy will be permanent, SGORR members have developed an alternative. Mearns explained that students can order food online, have one member pick it up, and bring it to a member's house.

Mearns said, "I see [going out to lunch] as a privilege, so the next few years are to filter kids out, and then people won't even think about it."

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FIGHTING, DRINKING PROVOKE 9 ARRESTS

As crowd leaves game, fight erupts in North Gym lot

BY SHANE MCKEON AND ANDREW MURPHY
STAFF REPORTERS

Shaker Heights police responded to a fight in the North Gym parking lot Dec. 2 after the men's basketball home opener against Toledo St. John's. One minor and one adult were arrested.

An incident report of the fight obtained from the SHPD states, "On Friday 12/02/2011, Shaker Hts. Police Units were requested to respond to the Shaker Heights High School parking lot on a report of a large fight in progress. Upon arrival one juvenile male, and one adult male [were] placed under arrest for disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, and obstructing official police business."

According to Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson, the administrator assigned to the game, the fight involved current and former Shaker students and did not involve players or Toledo St. John's students. Griffith said that the fight was not related to issues from school.

Hutchinson said that the hockey game, the basketball game and the school play happening simultaneously diluted Shaker security's presence at each event. Principal Michael Griffith said that "maybe four police officers" were assigned to the basketball game and had to call four additional officers when the fight occurred.

Griffith was involved in the school production of "A Wonderful Town" Friday night. From backstage, Griffith could hear a disturbance outside. "When I heard a dog bark, I knew something was wrong," said Griffith, who believes the police dog attacked one student.

Griffith said by the time could leave the auditorium and go outside, police had already handled the incident.

Though Griffith said fighting after basketball games is not an ongoing problem, he also said that the school should take steps to combat it.

"Our presence out there is critical. We've taken steps to say that we should be out there prior to the dismissal of an event, so that when people come out, there's already a visible presence to make the point that we're expecting it to be a nice, quiet exit," Griffith said.

Griffith also noted the dimness of the North Gym parking lot. "It was dark. You can't see faces, you don't know who's who," he said, adding that "we will try to make it a more visible place."

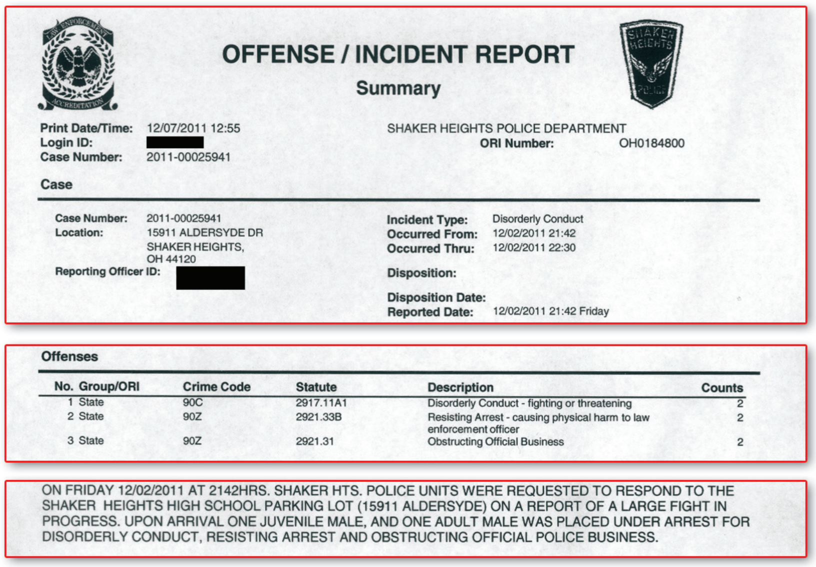
Shaker eighth-grader Josh Podl said he saw the end of the fight. "When I walked out, I saw a crowd of people and I didn't know what was going on," Podl stated in a Facebook interview. "I looked closer and I saw someone on the ground getting handcuffed. I saw several policemen with their dogs."

Despite rumors, Lebron James was not in attendance. "This was like the perfect storm," Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson said in reference to the rumor, the large attendance, the talent, and the spirited blackout.

In the home opener, the Raider men's basketball team defeated Toledo St. John's 63-62. Terry Rozier scored 27 points and senior Kash Blackwell scored 12 points.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT

Additional police were called to the high school Dec. 2 when a fight erupted in the North Gym parking lot after the basketball game.



OFFENSE / INCIDENT REPORT
Summary

Print Date/Time: 12/07/2011 12:55
Login ID: [redacted]
Case Number: 2011-00025941

SHAKER HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORI Number: OH0184800

Case

Case Number: 2011-00025941
Location: 15911 ALDERSYDE DR
SHAKER HEIGHTS,
OH 44120
Reporting Officer ID: [redacted]

Incident Type: Disorderly Conduct
Occurred From: 12/02/2011 21:42
Occurred Thru: 12/02/2011 22:30
Disposition:
Disposition Date:
Reported Date: 12/02/2011 21:42 Friday

Offenses

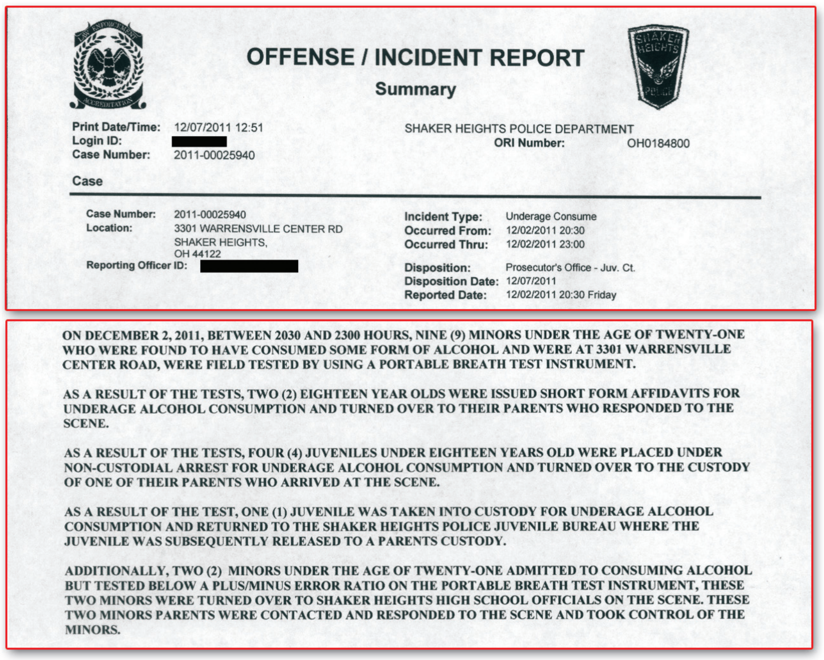
No. Group/ORI	Crime Code	Statute	Description	Counts
1 State	90C	2917.11A1	Disorderly Conduct - fighting or threatening	2
2 State	90Z	2921.33B	Resisting Arrest - causing physical harm to law enforcement officer	2
3 State	90Z	2921.31	Obstructing Official Business	2

ON FRIDAY 12/02/2011 AT 2142HRS. SHAKER HTS. POLICE UNITS WERE REQUESTED TO RESPOND TO THE SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT (15911 ALDERSYDE) ON A REPORT OF A LARGE FIGHT IN PROGRESS. UPON ARRIVAL ONE JUVENILE MALE, AND ONE ADULT MALE WAS PLACED UNDER ARREST FOR DISORDERLY CONDUCT, RESISTING ARREST AND OBSTRUCTING OFFICIAL POLICE BUSINESS.

Breath tests identify 7 underage drinkers at hockey game

THE OFFICIAL REPORT

Hockey fans kept the SHPD busy last Friday night,
as this excerpt from the Thornton Park incident report shows.



OFFENSE / INCIDENT REPORT
Summary

Print Date/Time: 12/07/2011 12:51
Login ID: [redacted]
Case Number: 2011-00025940

SHAKER HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORI Number: OH0184800

Case

Case Number: 2011-00025940
Location: 3301 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD
SHAKER HEIGHTS,
OH 44122
Reporting Officer ID: [redacted]

Incident Type: Underage Consume
Occurred From: 12/02/2011 20:30
Occurred Thru: 12/02/2011 23:00
Disposition: Prosecutor's Office - Juv. Ct.
Disposition Date: 12/07/2011
Reported Date: 12/02/2011 20:30 Friday

ON DECEMBER 2, 2011, BETWEEN 2030 AND 2300 HOURS, NINE (9) MINORS UNDER THE AGE OF TWENTY-ONE WHO WERE FOUND TO HAVE CONSUMED SOME FORM OF ALCOHOL AND WERE AT 3301 WARRENSVILLE CENTER ROAD, WERE FIELD TESTED BY USING A PORTABLE BREATH TEST INSTRUMENT.

AS A RESULT OF THE TESTS, TWO (2) EIGHTEEN YEAR OLDS WERE ISSUED SHORT FORM AFFIDAVITS FOR UNDERAGE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND TURNED OVER TO THEIR PARENTS WHO RESPONDED TO THE SCENE.

AS A RESULT OF THE TESTS, FOUR (4) JUVENILES UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD WERE PLACED UNDER NON-CUSTODIAL ARREST FOR UNDERAGE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND TURNED OVER TO THE CUSTODY OF ONE OF THEIR PARENTS WHO ARRIVED AT THE SCENE.

AS A RESULT OF THE TEST, ONE (1) JUVENILE WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY FOR UNDERAGE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND RETURNED TO THE SHAKER HEIGHTS POLICE JUVENILE BUREAU WHERE THE JUVENILE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED TO A PARENTS CUSTODY.

ADDITIONALLY, TWO (2) MINORS UNDER THE AGE OF TWENTY-ONE ADMITTED TO CONSUMING ALCOHOL BUT TESTED BELOW A PLUS/MINUS ERROR RATIO ON THE PORTABLE BREATH TEST INSTRUMENT, THESE TWO MINORS WERE TURNED OVER TO SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL OFFICIALS ON THE SCENE. THESE TWO MINORS PARENTS WERE CONTACTED AND RESPONDED TO THE SCENE AND TOOK CONTROL OF THE MINORS.

BY BRIDGET COOK AND CLARA MEDALIE
STAFF REPORTERS

Seven students were arrested at the Dec. 2 varsity hockey game at Thornton Park after Breathalyzer tests revealed they had consumed alcohol.

Students were escorted from the student section by Shaker Heights police and subjected to Breathalyzer tests. According to police reports, two 18-year-old students were arrested at the scene and given court dates. Five minors were also arrested.

Six of the seven students arrested were handed over to their parents at the game. The other student spent Friday night in the Shaker Heights Police Juvenile Bureau and was later claimed by a parent.

Although two other minors tested admitted to consuming alcohol, the breath tests showed their blood alcohol levels were not high enough for police action. They were then turned over to their parents.

Another student confirmed that she was taken to the hospital in an ambulance for alcohol poisoning before the game began.

The incident report indicated that a metal flask covered in black tape was confiscated as evidence.

As news of the situation spread, many students left the game. The student section was noticeably emptier and quieter by the second period.

Senior Noah Rosenblatt, who said he was the designated driver for his friends, was one of the students chosen for a breath test. According to Rosenblatt, he did not drink that night, and the breath test did not indicate he had. He said Assistant Principal Sarah Joyce called his mother because he had been tested.

"Why call someone's parents when they're not doing anything wrong?" Rosenblatt said.

In a Guest 'Rite published in Nov. 21 edition of The Shakerite, math teacher Walter Slovikovski wrote, "I have recently spoken to a few friends who refused to attend Shaker hockey games because the environment . . . is far from family friendly."

Principal Michael Griffith said he was "highly disappointed and embarrassed" about the events. He said the police effort at the hockey game was independent of the school because Thornton Park is a city facility. He said he doesn't intend to employ Breathalyzer tests at school events unless "we get to the point where there's no alternative."

Reactions to the arrests= appeared on Facebook and Twitter. Some wished luck to those students taken into police custody. Others expressed disappointment in the way their peers behaved and commented that these students gave Shaker a bad reputation.

Responses of the hockey players themselves varied as well; some enjoyed having a rowdy crowd, while others didn't appreciate drunken students attending the game. "As long as the fans aren't causing a scene, it's fine, but from what I heard about Friday, they definitely went over the top," junior left wing John Longman said.

Although many spectators were distracted from the game by the events happening in the crowd, the hockey team managed to defeat Lake Catholic, 3-2.

Cover Story

NIGHTMARISH

Students contend that testing at game was u

BY ALYSSE EBERHARD
COVER STORY EDITOR

The roar of cheering fans was not loud enough to drown out the sirens of police cars and an ambulance.

And the explanations of administrators after the fact have done little to quiet students who are protesting arrests for underage drinking.

Those who attended the Dec. 2 varsity hockey game against Lake Catholic High School witnessed students pulled out of the stands and Breathalyzed, a student taken away in handcuffs and others simply turned away from entering the game.

A majority of the students removed from the game for underage drinking felt they were randomly chosen. Contrary to students' perceptions, however, Assistant Principal Sara Joyce, the administrator assigned to the events, said that administrators did not choose which students were pulled out or tested. "We did not direct the police in any way," she said.

Principal Michael Griffith reinforced that point. "We don't authorize or deny authorization of Breathalyzing . . . we didn't ask [the police] to [Breathalyze]," he said. "They're doing it as a part of their responsibility." The police have a prerogative to breath test because Thornton is city-owned property.

TIM LANESE

THE SENIOR SECTION cheers on the varsity hockey team at the home opener game against Lake Catholic High School

Assistant Athletic Director Michael Babinec, who attended the game, said that administrators who see obviously intoxicated students are obligated to act. "If we identify a student to be showing signs of being drunk or having consumed alcohol, we are to turn them over to the security staff. Then, the security staff works in conjunction with the police department [to determine the consequences]," he said.

Senior Ian Adams witnessed a senior being taken out of the game. According to Adams, the student "was just standing in the crowd, not doing anything at all." Adams also observed that the administration seemed to be choosing students who weren't displaying evidence of intoxication. "It didn't seem like they were treating the students fairly, by taking, what it seemed to be, kids at random," he said. Similarly, senior Catherine Taylor noticed that security guards were also taking people out of the bathrooms.

Senior Aaron Carrion, who was apprehended for underage drinking, was standing and watching the game when a security guard tapped him on the shoulder. "I've gone to almost every single hockey game since freshman year and nothing [was] different; everybody just goes crazy," he said. "I was one of the only kids who got handcuffed and arrested, but that was only because of the cop I was dealing with. He and I were butting heads really hard."

Other students were more understanding of the events. "I think that the administration went overboard and picked on mainly seniors," said senior Jeremy Allen. "At the same time, they were doing their job. That's how it goes."

Greg Shick, father of junior hockey co-captain and center Jacob Shick, said he didn't notice any difference in fan behavior from past games. "We honestly didn't see anything out of line; the kids were in paint and had the usual rowdiness," he said.

Shick also spoke with fans from the opposing side. "[Parents of Lake Catholic players] said that they loved the fans. They weren't used to pla
sphere," he said.

Junior left wing John Long
other schools that we have a
as they're not creating a scene

Fan support was one of
Grant decided to play for the
them. It's so much fun to play
drunk, but supporting fans,"

Students who arrived later
ited from entering the game.
O'Connell and junior Pearl E
and were told that tickets were
Mike Bellamy arrived at the
p.m. "The security guard start
ing me I couldn't come in. W
that there were too many peo

Upset with police and adr
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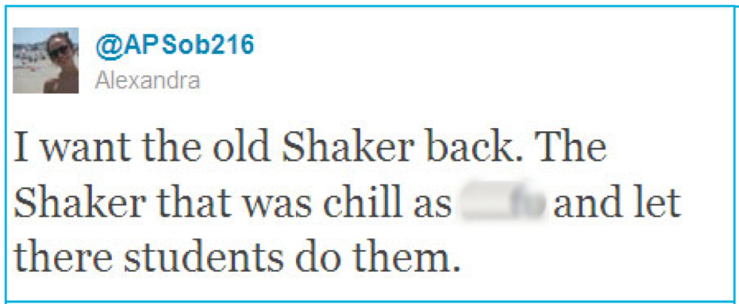
Youth Rebellion, a movemen
students, we aren't a violent
ing to cause a problem, we'
time," he said. Gaspar made
front and have the Youth Rebe

Bellamy said, "We as a sen
models and are relatively ang
And the fact that the administ
dents are so upset, and justifi

In the midst of frustration
by the events at the hockey
nouncement Dec. 6 at the en
his views on the situation.

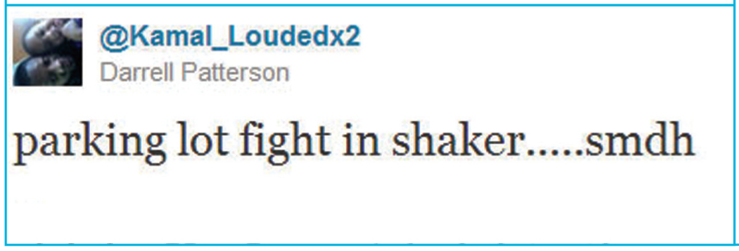
"The choices I am seeing
clear lack of respect for self,
for the community," Griffith
community that can celebra
dents and adults in many wo
a community where we can c
affirm each other for positive
hard work, to share our com
Shaker."

Taking to social media to comment on the night's events



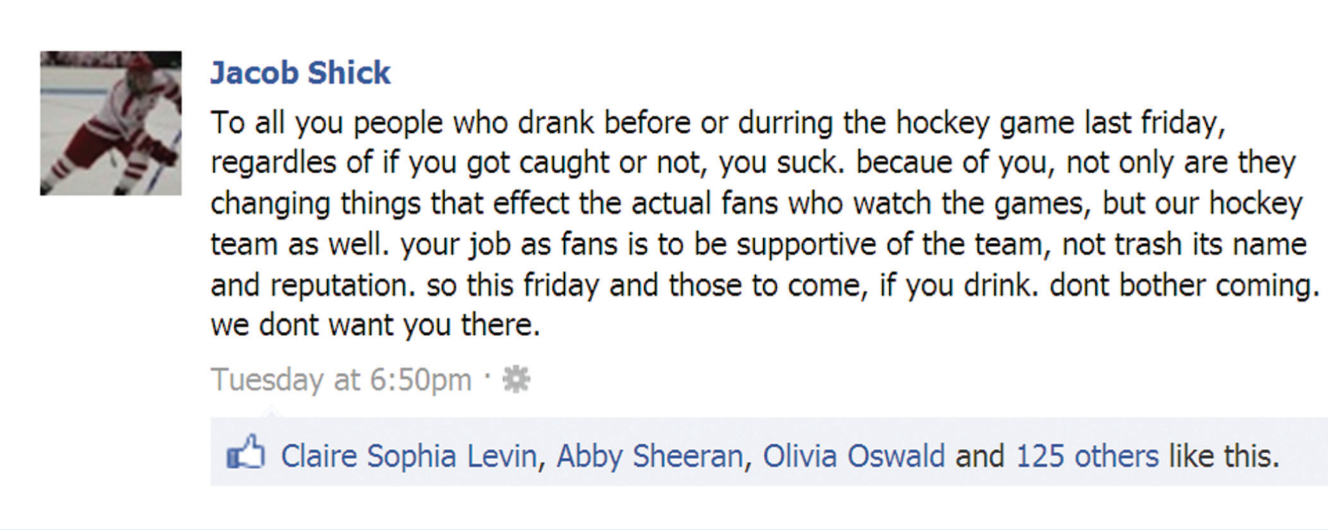
@APSob216
Alexandra

I want the old Shaker back. The Shaker that was chill as [redacted] and let there students do them.



@Kamal_Loudedx2
Darrell Patterson

parking lot fight in shaker.....smdh



Jacob Shick

To all you people who drank before or durring the hockey game last friday, regardles of if you got caught or not, you suck. becaue of you, not only are they changing things that effect the actual fans who watch the games, but our hockey team as well. your job as fans is to be supportive of the team, not trash its name and reputation. so this friday and those to come, if you drink. dont bother coming. we dont want you there.

Tuesday at 6:50pm ·

Claire Sophia Levin, Abby Sheeran, Olivia Oswald and 125 others like this.

BY RACHEL SHAW
COVER STORY EDITOR

After the Dec. 2 basketball and hockey games went haywire with fan misbehaviors, Facebook and Twitter exploded with commentary about student, administrator and police behavior, as well as with rumors and predictions regarding rules governing student behaviors and administrative procedure at future games.

Social media posts ranged from a condemnation of student behavior and a request that fans moderate their behavior in favor of actually supporting teams, to a criticism of administration and police for interference in student activity.

Senior Alexandra Sobisch tweeted about the hockey game. In an interview, she said, "The thing about Shaker is they give their students a lot of freedom, and that freedom was taken away, whether it's at a hockey game or any other sporting event. . . That freedom is such an important part of our school."

Junior Jacob Shick, who is co-captain of the hockey team, said, "When it gets to the point where fan actions are affecting our team, it becomes

Sophomore Arman Gerami tweeted,
game? Sweet, there's still at least 3 hours
drink #YouLooseAdministration."

In an interview, Gerami said, "I wa
doesn't affect anything, so I would twee
doesn't really matter if [the game] is at 6:

H FRIDAY NIGHT

unfair

ying with such a great atmo-

gman said, "It's good to show
crowd to support us -- as long
e."
the reasons junior Richard
Shaker hockey team. "I love
hockey with not necessarily
he said.
r in the evening were prohib-
Seniors Claire Levin and Nora
rnat arrived around 9:45 p.m.
e no longer being sold. Senior
hockey game around 10:45
ted pushing me back and tell-
hen I asked why, he just said
ple," Bellamy said.
ministration actions concern-
nior Alex Gaspar created The
nt "to prove a point that [as]
group at all and we're not try-
re just trying to have a good
shirts that say "sober" on the
ellion symbol on the back.
ior class have been good role
elic compared to past classes.
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and disappointment caused
game, Griffith made an an-
d of ninth period expressing

some students make show a
for family, for the school and
said. "I want to be a school
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nderful activities and events,
ome to support each other, to
e things, to reward effort and
mon love for being a part of

a problem."
"6:45 hockey
for the fans to

s thinking it
t about it – it
45 or 9."

Post basketball game, fight spurs chaotic scene

ARIELLE ANDERSON

A CALM CROWD watches as senior guard Terry Rozier plays in the Dec. 2 basketball home opener game against Toledo St. Johns.

BY RACHEL SHAW
COVER STORY EDITOR

The basketball home opener – a one-point win for Shaker -- culminated in a parking-lot fight and two arrests. To top it off, LeBron James was not in attendance, despite rumors that he would be.

Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson, the administrator assigned to the basketball game, said that the fight after the game overshadowed the amazing players. "With a spirited, diverse crowd. . . you never know what's going to happen," Hutchinson said. "We want to have good, clean fun."

Hutchinson continued to say that although the incident was "embarrassing for our school, we don't need to be ashamed of what happened."

Senior point guard Terry Rozier explained that the atmosphere at the basketball game was similar to that of a college arena.

"Fan behavior was wild but positive for the most part. When we first came out of the locker room onto the court, the view was amazing," Rozier said. "We need more games like Friday's, because we play off the fan's energy." Although he could not tell that anyone was under the influence, he said, "Don't come to our games under the influence, because we don't want more people getting into trouble."

Junior power forward Kash Blackwell agreed. "We just want our fans to come support us for the rest of the season," he said.

Rumors were flying regarding the fight after the game and the subsequent police involvement. "At the basketball game, I heard about the police bringing out K9s, and people getting bitten by dogs and stuff," senior Jeremy Allen said.

Principal Michael Griffith, who appeared in "Wonderful Town" as a police officer, was in the back of the Large Auditorium when the fight occurred and heard it through the loading/unloading door backstage. "When I heard a dog bark, I knew something was wrong," he said. "It just sounded off."

However, Griffith was in the middle of a performance. "I knew I had 10 minutes just to figure out what was going on," before intermission was over. By the time Griffith went outside, the police had already handled the situation.

Sophomore Asia Sparks was bitten by a police dog as she stood in the parking lot after the basketball game.

"I walked outside, and these two boys were getting ready to fight, and everybody was crowded around me," Sparks said. "Everybody was pushing and shoving to see the fight."

"I was standing in the parking lot. . . police were trying to break up the fight, police got pushed and next thing you know I was standing there and I got bit by a dog," Sparks said. "I didn't see the dog and I didn't hear any orders for me to move or anything. The dog bit me then the cop didn't do anything."

Sparks said that she blacked out and was hospitalized for about two hours as a result of the dog bite to her leg. "I got crutches and I'm limping, but I'm cool though," she said.

Police Chief Scott Lee refused to comment on the situation because it is still under investigation.

Senior Kristen Amaddio, who played in the pit during the musical, said that Griffith went outside during intermission and found out what was going on after the game. "He was definitely handling it really well. He wasn't freaking out or anything. He just seemed calm and on top of things," Amaddio said.

However, junior Brenton Sullivan, who appeared in the show as a police officer, said that he heard sirens and yelling. "Then it quieted down, and then dogs were barking and people were screaming," he said. "Chaos in the basketball game started pretty early in the play."

The policemen appeared in the last scene in Act I. Sullivan said that the actors who were backstage at the time supported Griffith's decision to go into the parking lot and deal with the real police and the aftermath of the fight, although it meant cutting his onstage appearance very close.

Theater Department Chairwoman Christine McBurney said, "[Griffith] was the only actor allowed to have his cell phone on his person and turned on."

After the basketball game ended, students in the parking lot attempted to force their way into the theater via the backstage door. Sullivan had opened that door to let in the cold air. "I had to slam the back door shut to make sure they couldn't get in," he said.

"It is troubling to me because we could have been pulled out of the world we worked hard to create," McBurney said.

However, McBurney expressed understanding as well. "The reality is that they are teenagers and we are in a high school," she said.

As for LeBron . . . the night was newsworthy enough without him.

Policies for future events under revision

BY ALLIE HARRIS
CAMPUS AND CITY REPORTER

After the Dec. 2 incidents, the administration made changes to decrease the probability of reoccurrences.

The administration hopes that changing the time of the hockey game from 9 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. will be another way to control the situation. According to Griffith, scheduling games for 9 p.m. "invites the problem."

By changing the time of the game, the administration hopes to create a safer environment. Furthermore, when students bought tickets for the Dec. 9 game, they were handed a list of rules for school events held at Thornton Park Ice Rink. These rules prohibit students from bringing bottles, bags and purses into the event. For the hockey games against St. Ignatius and US, tickets will only be sold in advance of the game. This practice has been common in past years, as games against Shaker's traditional rivals are the games most often sold out in advance.

Assistant Principal Sara Joyce said, "If there is a concern about somebody's safety, both agencies [school and police] are going to take action."

Joyce emphasized that safety is always a priority. "Underage drinking at any level is a violation of the law, and students are not exempt from the law at school events," she said.

The administration is also reviewing the dismissal process after games to try to reduce the likelihood of another post-game fight in the parking lot.

"Our presence out there is critical . . . we've taken steps to say that we should be out there prior to the dismissal of an event. . . so that when people come out, there's already a visible presence to make the point that we're expecting it to be a nice, quiet exit," Griffith said.

Furthermore, lighting in the parking lot outside of the gymnasium, where the fight occurred, is poor, making it hard to see people's faces.

Principal Michael Griffith said that administration will "try to make [the parking lot] a more visible place."

Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson said, "Sometimes, when these things happen and no one gets seriously hurt . . . it lets us evaluate the situation."

Hutchinson said that "the stars were aligned" for a big turnout at the basketball game. However, "as a school we weren't negligent," Hutchinson said.

Head basketball coach Danny Young doesn't anticipate any more problems with violence. "I think the school's taking proper precautions to make sure everything is all safe," Young said.

However, senior forward Jordan Allen thinks that the violence will escalate. "Before you know it, there's gonna be guns," Allen said.

The administration has raised questions regarding limited fan participation in future hockey games for those who were apprehended for underage drinking. Griffith said that he does not currently plan on Breathalyzing students as they enter school-sanctioned events.

However, Griffith acknowledges that the policy to Breathalyze upon entrace could be implemented at future hockey games. "It's not where I would go first," Griffith said. "If we get to the point where there's no alternative, then we'll cross that bridge."

"I believe in our kids," Griffith said.

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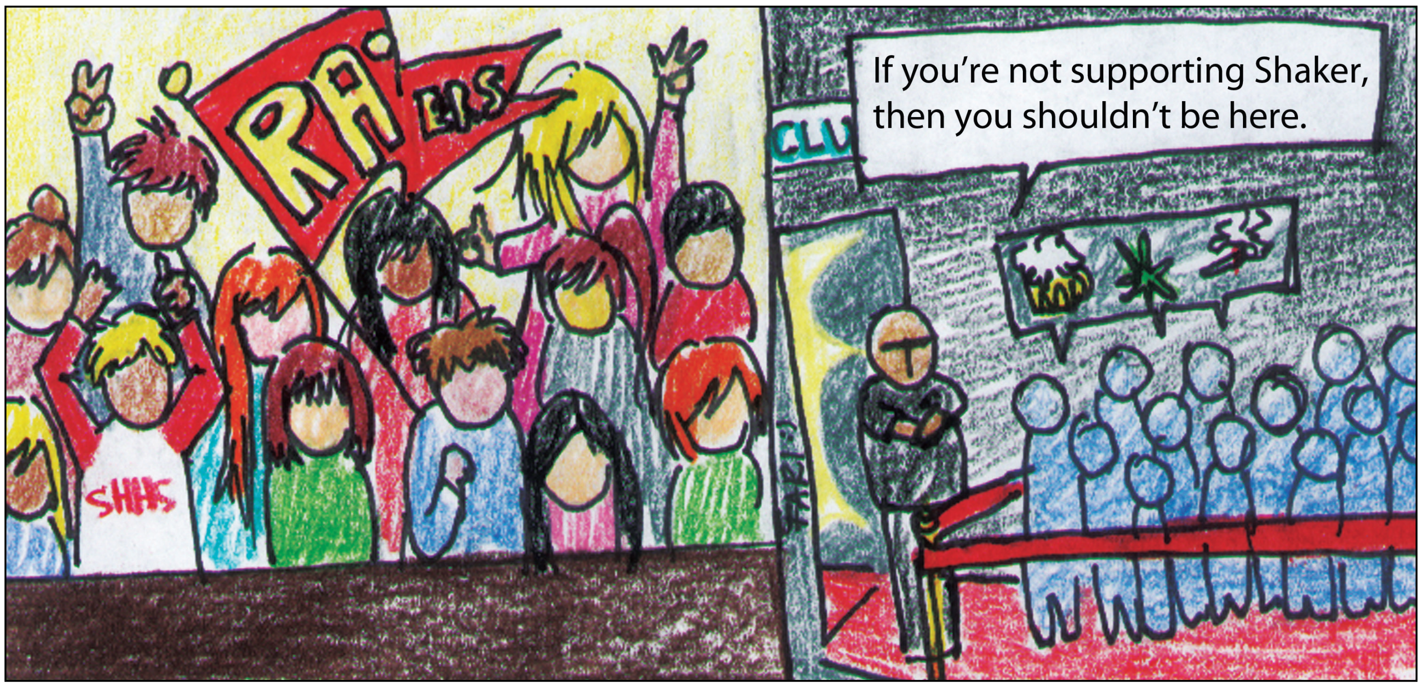
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If you're not supporting Shaker, then you shouldn't be here.

Fari Bustamante•The Shakerite

New policies, safer school events

After the arrest of nine students at Dec. 2 athletic contests, the administration is re-examining policies for fan behavior and crowd safety. We commend them for taking action instead of turning a blind eye on these issues, but we wish it hadn't taken such a dramatic turn of events for new policies to emerge.

Dec. 6, Principal Michael Griffith used the P.A. system to shed light on recent events that happened at hockey and men's basketball games. Griffith concluded the announcement with a strong assertion: "If you don't plan to come to the game, or the play, or any other activity, to support each other and our school, to display true Shaker spirit, in a positive, uplifting way, then, speaking for the majority, we prefer you don't come."

Strongly worded school-wide announcements regarding student participation in weekend events gone awry are not rare; in 2009 an announcement was made regarding inappropriate dancing at a school-sponsored dance. Yet, these announcements don't always change fan behavior.

Shaker students often show up intoxicated to hockey games, assuming they won't be penalized for their actions. With no policies in place to confront such behavior before games, it's no surprise that students have attempted to push the limits of what they can get away with.

However, twice a year, for hockey games against St. Ignatius and University School, additional restrictions are imposed. Restrictions include allowing Shaker students to purchase only a single ticket and to purchase it only at school.

No bags can be brought into the rink, and spectators can be removed from Thornton Park if there is a major disruption. None of these rules stop fans from coming to the biggest games of the year, so there shouldn't be an issue with the same rules about fan behavior applied at all games.

The decision to apply these rules to all hockey games will be beneficial, making hockey games a more enjoyable experience and will make the focus of the night the game, and our Shaker teams, rather than the drama in the stands.

During his announcement, Griffith spoke about how the administration is reconsidering school policies, but also that just looking at policies will not fix the problem. "While there's much we can learn from reevaluating our practices, a lot of that conversation, I'm frankly going to say, is smoke and mirrors, nothing but excuses or denials of the fundamental issue," Griffith said.

Acknowledgement of problems, no matter who the acknowledgement is from, and taking active measures to prevent them are huge steps in the right direction for Shaker. By asking disruptive students not to come to school functions and only come to support our school, Griffith is establishing a foundation for further actions.

Of course, these new school rules won't be successful without student participation. It is our hope that, regardless of the rules in effect, the student body will continue to come to sporting events to support their school.

Slovikovski reacts to police intervention

In last month's issue, math teacher Walter Slovikovski wrote a Guest 'Rite about the behavior at Shaker hockey games. In light of recent events, Slovikovski spoke about changes made in school policies regarding future hockey games.

Were you pleased with the actions that the police and administration took at Friday's hockey game?

Walter Slovikovski

"The adults are trying to save you guys from yourselves. Somebody's got to step in and get control of the behavior. If the students aren't able to be in control, then the adults have to be. Good kids make bad choices that could be life-threatening if you don't monitor them. The adults had to be in control."

Do you believe your guest editorial in last month's issue concerning fan behavior at the hockey games affected adults' actions?

"I would say it raised the awareness that we need solutions, but I don't necessarily think that it had an effect."

Do you think the time change of hockey games from 9:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. is an efficient solution that will curb bad behavior?

"I think it's a start. I think it's going to help. The students should be aware that people are watching them now a lot more carefully than they've done previously."

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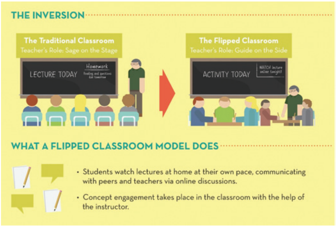
Flipped Classroom


THE INVERSION
The Traditional Classroom
Teacher's Role: Sage on the Stage
LECTURE TODAY
Homework
Reading and questions due tomorrow
The Flipped Classroom
Teacher's Role: Guide on the Side
ACTIVITY TODAY
WATCH lecture online tonight!
WHAT A FLIPPED CLASSROOM MODEL DOES

- Students watch lectures at home at their own pace, communicating with peers and teachers via online discussions.
- Concept engagement takes place in the classroom with the help of the instructor.

The flipped classroom model puts an end to typical lectures and homework. Teachers post videos online for students to view on their computers and devote class time to solving problems. The model emerged to address poor academic scores, and Khan Academy says it has raised student grades in several high schools across the country.

WONDERFULTOWN

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

SHORT ON MONEY and slightly intimidated by the unfriendly and unwelcoming atmosphere of Christopher Street, McCandless and Davidson sit by their apartment shortly after arriving in New York, regretting their decision to leave Ohio. Top right: Davidson stands while on board a bus, carrying an envelope of stories that she has written as she travels through New York in search of someone who would publish her work. Bottom right: Allegra Verlezza marches with Alex Ramsay and Vita Brown as the scene is set during the musical's opening number, "Christopher Street."

With 110 students collaborating, fall musical proves wonderfully entertaining

BY KATHLEEN KALAFATIS AND SARAH-JANE LORENZO
SPOTLIGHT EDITORS

The Theatre Department's production of "Wonderful Town" provided constant entertainment Nov. 30.

The lighthearted play details the story of Eileen and Ruth Sherwood (Hannah McCandless and Zoe Davidson), two sisters who leave Ohio for New York City searching for a better life. When they arrive, they find that New York isn't exactly what they expected. Their apartment is cramped, not everyone is friendly and neither sister has luck finding work. The sisters persevere, aided by the generosity of Eileen's suitor Frank Lippencott (Dean Carlson) and entranced by the friendship of their shared love interest, Bob Baker (Jonah Weinstein).

The production of "Wonderful Town" captured the audience's attention in new and creative ways. Actors mastered song, dance and tremendous comedy which, coupled with the professional set, led to a well-executed production. McCandless and Davidson's on-stage chemistry made for a believable relationship.

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

A NEW YORK tour guide (Mara Schoch) leads a tour of Christopher Street, where the musical takes place.

Featuring more than 110 actors, management team students and pit orchestra members, "Wonderful Town" had four showings and an in-school preview, during which select scenes were performed. "Audience response has been very incredible. We had our largest preview ever," said Theatre Department Chairwoman Christine McBurney, who directed the musical.

"Wonderful Town" is a musical written by Joseph A. Fields and Jerome Chodorov, with music composed by Leonard Bernstein. First appearing on Broadway in 1953, "Wonderful Town" has been produced by both major and minor companies. "It was a lot of work," said senior Danielle White, the play's costume chair. "But the simple little things made it all the better. It was worthwhile."

McBurney loved directing "Wonderful Town." "I was very pleased with the process and the progress," she said. "It was very rewarding."

Griffith makes theatrical debut

Janet Macoska•The Shakerite

GRIFFITH AND HIS fellow police officers (Brenton Sullivan, Mario Belfiglio, Ian Mercer and Dayvon Rose) end their musical number in a final pose with McCandless.

Those who attended "Wonderful Town" witnessed Principal Michael Griffith's theatrical debut during the second act.

Griffith played the role of a police officer at the jail Eileen is taken to after starting a riot. Along with several other police officers, Griffith serenaded Eileen with an Irish song, "My Darlin' Eileen," and performed a choreographed Irish jig.

"In my career, that is probably one of the most enjoyable things I've ever done," Griffith said.

Griffith, who attended rehearsals as regularly as any other actor in the show, was surprised by how exhausting show preparations were for him. "I did not anticipate how intense that would be," Griffith said. "I didn't realize how much was involved in it."

"Working with Griffith is so wonderful," said senior Danielle White. "The best part of that show had to be working with him and talking with him."

Follow us on Twitter

Raider Zone is now discussing sports in 140 characters or fewer. Follow @RZ_Shakerite on Twitter for live sports updates, scores and commentary. Raider Zone editors Ian Round and Kyra Hall will cover Shaker sports and comment on college and professional sports. Get ready, athletes. We're following your every move.

HEAD HOCKEY COACH Michael Bartley illustrates a play on a dry-erase board for the varsity hockey team at practice Dec. 5. The team's daily hour-long practices at Thornton Park aren't unusually short. Even though Gilmour has its own ice rink, Gilmour head coach John Malloy says his team practices for about the same amount of time. "Sometimes it's good to keep it shorter to keep the kids focused," Malloy said. According to both coaches, hockey practices are shorter than other sports' because the rinks have to accommodate youth teams and figure skating and because ice time is expensive.

Shane McKeon•The Shakerite

A HOCKEY PRACTICE WELL SPENT

BY IAN ROUND
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Thornton Park is much different on Mondays at 4 p.m. than it is on Fridays at 9:30 p.m. It's certainly quieter and less crowded. Your line of sight is clear and you can hear skates cutting against the ice in the absence of rowdy fans. Everyone knows what happens at games, but what about practice? Four Shakerite members were at practice Dec. 5. This is what we saw.

3:30: The team warms up with a shooting drill. They will only practice for about an hour; according to head coach Michael Bartley, nearly all hockey teams practice for this long because of booked ice time.

3:35: They discuss forechecking. In simple terms, forechecking is defensive pressure far away from the goal.

3:39: They begin five-on-five drills focusing on specific situations. The red and white lines – the two best – begin. "Make the defense-to-defense pass," Bartley tells them.

3:40: The black and green lines take the ice. The lines alternate every minute. Red and white return.

3:42: Bartley shoots the puck into the corner closest to the entrance to the rink and the visitors' bleachers. Junior wing Bijan Gerami checks sophomore defender Max Yauch into the boards near Shaker's bench.

3:43: Bartley repeats the process for the red and white lines, shooting the puck into a different corner.

3:45-4:05: To the untrained eye, it appears that there's no subtlety involved. But they're not just scrimmaging. "OK, defensemen: you're going to try to wheel the puck this time," Bartley says. On closer look, the puck goes around and behind the goal on each play – "wheeling" the puck. Then, Bartley changes the objective. "Defense, run a reverse. Forwards, let them make a reverse pass."

Practices are just as action-packed as games. At 3:51, junior wing John Longman screams "Sam!" to senior center Sam Clellen. At 3:59, assistant coach Jonathan Rice speaks inaudibly to the green line on the bench. A moment later, the puck hits the board less than five feet from Bartley, who doesn't flinch. It might have even gone behind him, or through his legs; it was moving too fast to tell. He is wearing an NHL-style helmet, and the transparent plastic visor is up so he can see more easily, despite sacrificing safety. But he's used to it: this is his 36th year coaching at Shaker.

4:05: The team huddles around Bartley, who draws on a handheld dry-erase board. A minute later, they're practicing screens -- a player on offense stands directly in the goalie's line of sight. He will try to deflect a shot into the goal or recover a rebound off of the boards.

4:12: Freshman defender NathanChristman shoots again, and junior center Jacob Shick deflects the puck into the net.

4:13: Junior defender Jonathan Greenberg asks for a bag of ropes near Shakerite staff members.

4:14: Each player finds a partner. One player wraps the rope around his middle and pulls the other the length of the rink. The five goalies condition with one another while the rest of the team sprints.

4:22: Every practice ends with a game. Today, they scrimmage with two pucks. Again, the lines alternate every minute. Sophomore defender Arman Gerami asks sophomore Shakerite staff reporter Shane McKeon to fill water bottles. Rice runs off of the ice and takes the bottles from McKeon because they don't really need to be filled.

4:29: The team stretches and leaves the ice. Freshman goalie Grant Passell picks up some accumulated ice in the goal with his stick and throws it in the air.

4:33 – Finally, the Zamboni hits the ice. Bartley speaks in the locker room, and the players leave individually around 5 p.m. Other teams are probably warming up now.

MULLET MONSTER

SENIOR SAM CLELLEN came to school sporting a mullet Dec. 1. Although he admitted the sides of his head are cold, Clellen said he plans to keep his mullet for a few months, or at least until the end of hockey season. He said, "Hockey helmets are made for mullets."

Liz Jacob •The Shakerite

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